

Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual State Legislators in the United States
Developing A New Database

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“Representation” is a perennial topic of study in political science, both from theoretical perspectives and as an empirical factor that may or may not have specific consequences for political outcomes. One of the major lines of research about representation concerns the demographic characteristics of the representatives themselves. Three basic types of research questions predominate in this area: 1) to what extent is a particular demographic group represented in an elected body (descriptive representation); 2) to what extent does a particular demographic characteristic correlate with voting behavior or a representative’s policy priorities (substantive representation), and 3) does the level of group representation have any impact on overall policy outcomes. In recent years, there have been numerous studies generally focused on these specific questions, primarily with respect to women and historically underrepresented minority groups, notably African Americans and Latinos. Whether or not the findings of studies on other groups apply to questions of representation of lesbian, gay, and bisexual (LGB)¹ Americans has begun to be studied, as well. However, unlike those studies of other groups, the study of LGB political representation has a more difficult time in identifying the answer to the first question, namely: What is the extent of LGB representation? Before one can get to the systematic study of the second two questions, one has to know the extent of LGB presence in any specific legislative body. The goal of this project is to develop a database of GLB state legislators that can be used by different researchers, thereby creating a common database that will allow the work of one scholar to be replicated by another. The purpose of this paper is to make an effort to provide an accurate and comprehensive list of all LGB legislators in American states and to raise some of the questions and issues that have to be answered in deciding who should and should not be included in the database. In developing this database, one also learns of some of the specific features of American state legislatures that make the project more challenging.

While some of the work on the impact of group representation on legislative voting behavior and policy outcomes has focused on the United State Congress, much of the comparative work has been done in the context of state legislatures. Fifty states and five territorial governments provide a reasonably sized pool of data points that allows researchers to make comparisons and apply a number of statistical

¹ The focus of this paper is on LGB state legislators because to date no open transgendered person has served in a state legislature. Haider-Markel (2002) cites Althea Garrison as being the first transgendered state legislator in the U.S. (elected in Massachusetts in 1992 and outed shortly after the election [Ferguson 2012]), but Ms. Garrison has never publicly acknowledged her status as a transgendered legislator even though she continues to campaign for elected office to this day (Bernstein 2013; Roberts 2012). A second transgendered candidate, Stacie Laughton, was elected to the New Hampshire state legislature in 2012, but the State Attorney General found her ineligible for the seat because of a previous felony conviction, the penalty for which still had not been completed, and she submitted a resignation before ever being sworn in (Gill 2013).

procedures to the data if that is the direction they want to go in. Such research also benefits from reasonably comprehensive and accessible data sources for information needed for these kinds of studies. However, one piece of data, in particular, that has proved hard to come by is the number of openly GLB state legislators in a particular state in any given year.

There are a few studies that have attempted to look at the second and third questions and they have developed databases for the purposes of their studies, most notably the work of Donald Haider-Markel and his various co-authors. Beginning with his dissertation, Haider-Markel (1997) has produced and printed lists of open LGBT elected officials in the American states (Haider-Markel 2000; Smith & Haider-Markel 2002) as appendices. In more recent work, however, where he uses the data in conducting various statistical analyses about the impact of LGB representation, the actual data source tends to be simply referenced as “compiled by the author” from some specifically named sources (e.g., Victory Fund, Human Rights Campaign, National Gay & Lesbian Task Force) and specific terms used in database research. Likewise, Rebekah Herrick (2009, 2010(a), 2010(b)) makes reference to her data sources for the information (Victory Fund). If anyone would want to reproduce their studies, they would need to rely on a final list put together by the author him or herself. It might be possible to access some data from the organizations identified by these authors, but it would not be easy, as will be discussed below. Recently Reynolds (2013) has done similar work focused on legislators in national governing bodies.

This project emerged as I began to think about possible research projects about the impact of LGB legislators on public policy. The first thing I needed was a list of who those LGB legislators are/were and when they served. It was my difficulty in finding such a list, or at least a list that I felt was reliable, that led me to try to create a master list of LGBT state and territorial legislatures with the idea of making it publicly accessible, accurate, and comprehensive. In this effort, I learned quite a bit about LGB public officials, “coming out” as an elected official, and a number of specific quirks in particular state legislatures that I didn’t know before. Before moving to a report on some of the specific information that I have developed, I want to describe some of the challenges those working in this area will face.

The Usual Suspects for Data

As I noted, researchers tend to rely on national organizations for information about state legislatures. There is not necessarily anything wrong with this IF the national organizations have prioritized the maintenance of accurate state records as part of their mission. The Human Resource Campaign (HRC) does a good job of keeping track of state policy developments – consider, for example the many “state

policy adoption” maps they maintain and which are easily available from their main website (but note there is not a map of elected officials), but their principal focus with respect to candidates has been at the federal level. HRC also puts out an annual compendium of GLBT legislation considered in the states that is essential for studies of whether or not LGB policy success is affected by the presence of LGB legislators. The National Gay & Lesbian Task Force has in recent years been much more of a policy shop that conducts important studies and produces reports that the media and public can use to understand the issues. They also monitor LGB -related policy activity at the state level and publish issue maps. Another major activity is putting on the annual “Creating Change” workshop to train activists in general but they don’t specifically train candidates to run for office.

It has fallen to the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund to specialize in LGB political candidates and elected officials more specifically. And while they do provide assistance to Congressional candidates, most of their work is at the state and local levels. One of their most important tasks is training LGB candidates and advising previously closeted LGB elected officials about strategies for coming out publicly. Although they have some information online about current elected officials, the historical information available tends to be about LGB candidates they supported (and whether or not they were successful in the election) which means that LGB candidates who don’t seek their financial support are not going to be listed in their “Scorecard” as a winner or loser and may not be included in their list of current officials. The Victory Fund’s online listing of elected officials is disappointing, to say the least; the problem starts with the fact the first six people appearing on list have no names attached to the photos. The online accessibility to their *Gay Politics Report* is limited in how far it goes back and the lack of a search engine for using it.

This division of labor among the groups is not a bad thing at all. The problem is, for someone who wants up-to-date and accurate information about GLB (and T) elected officials, these websites provide a place to start, but they don’t generate a lot of confidence that they are complete and accurate.

I will note, for the record, that there is what appears to be a comprehensive listing of GLBT parliamentarians (including U.S. members of Congress) that is published online, but I am not in a position to talk about its reliability. The site was established by the LGBT Representation & Rights Research Initiative housed at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

[New Resources](#)

In the end, I began with the published list from Haider-Markel in his 2000 article, then various reports put out by the Victory Fund that listed “their” winners and losers, random news stories I have been collecting over the years, and a Google search using a variety of terms – gay, lesbian, legislature, elected, and the names of specific states. In doing these searches in Google, I was often led to Wikipedia biographies, and I eventually stumbled across an entry that purports to be a listing of elected GLBT state legislators with links to their biographies which often included details about their legislative service and their coming out – but not always. Early in my efforts I was especially please to come across biographies that said Representative X is one of four openly gay legislators in her state along with Rep. A, Rep. B, and Rep. C (and links to their biographies, as well). I encourage all of you to check out your states and look at the biographies of these folks. If they are absent or weak, bringing them up to standards is a great student project, extra credit or otherwise.

New Hampshire

Having used all these sources I am fairly confident that I have a complete list of “open” LGB state legislators for 49 of the 50 states and the five territories. The state where I most lack confidence in the data is New Hampshire. Students of state politics know New Hampshire as an outlier because it has 400 seats in its House of Representatives (although only 24 seats in the state Senate). This means each House member represents about 3,500 people, by far the smallest state legislative districts in the country. As I learned from poring over web pages trying to track down information about people who might have been LGB or were LGB but it wasn’t clear when they served; lots of people have served in the state legislature over the years, few if any raise campaign money at all, let alone seeking funding from national organizations; at least some of them tend to go in and out of office frequently. There also seemed to be a great reluctance on the part of New Hampshire media outlets to actually name someone as gay or lesbian even if they are “out.” There were several references to the “gay and lesbian caucus” in the New Hampshire House (e.g., Haider-Markel 2010) but typically only the spokesperson was identified as gay. I learned that the executive director of “New Hampshire Freedom to Marry” was elected to the legislature for one term, but nowhere did I ever see anybody refer to her as a lesbian (or as a straight ally) although all of the public statements and the tone of the stories and statements suggested that she was. In some articles where people were identified as openly gay or lesbian, they were also called “former” state representatives. One can’t tell from that whether or not they were completely or partially open during their service or if “coming out” was a post-service declaration. New

Hampshire may be proud of its political androgyny, but it sure makes it hard to conduct this kind of research.

How “Out” is Out – and When?

In addition to the problem presented above for New Hampshire, there was a more general problem about figuring out just when a person came out and how should that be recorded in a data base. One question I focused on was “when was the first openly LGB legislator elected?” That meant that I didn’t credit that state with electing an open LGB legislator until that legislator stood for re-election (and won). Thus, although Elaine Noble and Alan Spear both were openly lesbian and gay in 1974, respectively, elected officials, Alan Spear didn’t stand for re-election until 1976 so Elaine Noble’s election in 1974 gives Massachusetts credit as being the first state to elect an openly LGB legislator. It also means that Delaware is still on the list of states that have not yet elected an openly LGB legislator, even though a state Senator recently announced she was in a same-sex relationship. One potential area of study uncovered by this project would be to research the circumstances under which previously closeted state legislators decide to come out. Anecdotally, it does seem that debates over LGB issues often provide the impetus for legislators to come out. Most recently Arizona state Senator Steve Gallardo came out at a press conference after the debate over the bill giving private businesses the right to refuse to serve gay people if it offended their religious beliefs. (Pitzl 2014) Gallardo will be running for the U.S. Congress this year.

But this ability to “time” one’s coming out is quite different from the situation faced by women and members of minority groups since their sex, race, and ethnicity are almost always known before they are ever elected to state office. In statistical studies, however, the same individual may be credited at one point in time as being not gay and at another point as being gay. In particular, this can happen in the middle of a session meaning that it may be important for researchers to know the exact dates of a person’s coming out and the dates of debate on specific bills that are of interest. For example, Herrick (2009) excluded one gay Republican senator from a survey she conducted about how GLB representatives view their roles because he had just come out a few months earlier and didn’t have much legislative experience as an out GLB legislator. However, there were a number of Democratic GLB legislators who had only been in office for a few months themselves when the survey was administered about six months after they were sworn in.

In deciding whether or not a person was “out” and when they came out, if it wasn’t clearly established before their first election or identified with a specific news report of an announcement by the individual, I attempted to triage various news stories, references in other people’s biographies, and assess whether it seemed like the information about them being gay was “breaking news” or just an ordinary disclosure that “everyone” already knew. In the latter case, I tended to give them “credit” for being gay back to their most recent election.

Some Observations

Once I was satisfied that the list I developed was as comprehensive and accurate as I could possibly make it, I started to look at some raw frequency data that could be gleaned from it. The long term goal is to turn the database into an online resource that can be accessed and updated by anyone for any variety of studies on LGB legislators and questions of representation.

Firsts. I started out by making a list of when each state first elected an open LGB state legislator. Because I wanted to get a sense of timing and how the policy has been diffused among the states, I decided to map it in a way that might help me see whether or not there were any patterns. (Map 1) Only four states had elected a GLB representative by 1989 and each of those states had only elected one person. Elaine Noble, the first open GLB elected in 1974 had left office in 1978 and it wasn’t until Elizabeth Malia was elected to the Massachusetts House twenty years later (she is still serving today) that an openly LGB member was present. The 1990s and 2000s were much busier in terms of states breaking the LGB barrier. The far West, Southwest, and New England plus New York elected their first LGB legislators in the early 1990s, along with Wisconsin and Missouri. Three Rocky Mountain states, Illinois and Connecticut successfully elected GLB legislators before the end of the century. In the early 2000s, the first southern states – Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia– elected LGB legislators while a long-serving Kentucky state senator came out and successfully stood for re-election. Ten more states have elected their first LGB legislators. Two of them, Florida and Pennsylvania each elected two new representatives. Only nine states have not yet elected an open LGB legislator, although as noted earlier, Delaware has recently had a state Senator come out and it remains to be seen if she runs for and wins re-election. (Garcia 2013)

Also with respect to “firsts,” I was curious as to whether or not there was any difference between the likelihood of a female or male being the first open LGB elected to the legislature (see Map 2). The

pattern is interesting geographically, though whether they are statistically significantly different remains to be seen.

General Membership. Next I simply wanted to see the size of the LGB contingent in each state legislature in the current year. (Map 3) Obviously this can be done for any particular year, as well. Three states – California, Colorado, and Maryland – had eight LGB members each; Massachusetts had seven, while Maine, Vermont, and New York each had six. Twelve states had no open LGB legislators, including four – Arkansas, Idaho, Kentucky, and Michigan – which had had one LGB legislator at some time in the past. There were 11 states each that had one and 10 states that had two members, the remainder having between three and five open LGB legislators. A second set of maps shows the counts separately for the House and the Senate in the 49 states that are bicameral. (Maps 4 & 5)

Because there is no uniformity in the size of different state Senates and Houses, I also looked at the number of LGB officeholders as a percentage of the legislature as a whole and of each body using data from the *Book of the States* (Wall 2010) for information about the size of each legislature. (Map 6) Also, Haider-Markel (2010, p. 15) noted that a number of scholars of representation had indicated that a “critical mass” of at least 15% of a legislative body might be necessary before seeing an impact on policy-making. He pointed out the difficulty of a group achieving that proportion when their share of the overall population might be only 3-10%. In 2014, most states had less than two percent of their total membership openly identify as LGB. This is also true of seats in the lower houses in most states. With respect to states that have elected LGB senators, however, bodies which are always smaller than their respective lower houses (with the exception of unicameral Nebraska), between 2 and 5 percent of the senators are LGB; in Nevada, the three LGB senators comprise 14.9% of the body and, in Arizona, with the recent announcement by Senator Gallardo mentioned above, 10% of that senate is LGB. On the House side, Colorado has 7.7% of its members openly LGB, while for California it is 6.8%. (Maps 7 & 8)

The GLB members of state legislative bodies have been overwhelmingly Democrats. I identified only 11 members (from 8 states) who served as openly gay (they were all men) Republican legislators. (Map 9) One of them changed parties shortly after coming out; two of them were outed and left office at the end of the term they were serving; two others came out and did not seek re-election; and two others were defeated in primaries for re-election.

Historical Growth and Cumulation. Another way to look at this data is to measure the change, over time, of the annual and cumulative total number of open LGB state legislators. (Chart 1, Chart 2, Map 10) Beginning in 1974 when there were no openly GLB legislators – Elaine Noble had been elected, but the Massachusetts General Court did not swear her in until January 1995 – I simply did an annual count of legislators, making adjustments when I could determine that a person coming out towards the very end of a year probably should not be counted in that year if there were no further legislative action in that year. On the other hand, even if someone came out late in the year, if it was in the context of a legislative debate on a LGB issue, they probably should be counted. If they were appointed or specially elected during a non-election year, I counted them in that year if they were appointed before September 1 and in the next year if they entered office after that date, unless there was specific evidence of debate on an issue of importance to LGB constituents after their appointment. A few states swear in the new legislative body in December, but generally only ceremonial activities take place in that month so I began counting those members in the following year. Also, there are a number of states that meet every other year, so although I am counting Celia Israel who won a special election in January to the Texas House, the legislature will not meet until next January after she has stood for re-election which she may or may not win. (Walters 2014) On the other hand, the Texas should not be adopting any new pro- or anti-gay policies before then either, unless a special session is called, so studies on policy adoption should not be affected.

Haider-Markel frequently makes references to the “total number” of openly LGB people who have held state legislative offices (e.g., Haider-Markel 2002, 201; 2000, 294; 2010, 86-87). I used the data I collected to determine the unduplicated count of openly LGB individuals who have served in state legislatures. My unduplicated count for individuals who have served as openly GLB members of their state legislatures since 1975 is 213; there have been 12 openly gay members of Congress by comparison. Thirty-one of these 213 people have served as openly gay in both houses of their state legislatures, but they are only counted once for the purposes of this total figure; thirty five have only openly served in the Senate (some of them had served in the lower house, but not as LGB); the remainder have served only in their state’s lower house. As noted earlier, 11 of them were Republicans and 202 were Democrats. Eight of these people identified as bisexual, 73 identified as lesbian, and 132 identified as gay men. Further, three of the legislators identify as Asian-American or Pacific Island-American, 9 as Black or African-American, 14 as Hispanic or Latino, three as Native American, and the remaining 184 were white. (Table 1)

Next Steps

While I believe this is a good beginning, there are a number of steps that need to be completed before anything like an “official” list can be established. First, there needs to be discussion on some definitions of terms, particularly the terms “out” or “openly LGB” and when a person “qualifies.” This is obviously not typically a concern of studies of women or racial and ethnic minorities, but in LGBT studies, this is a constant question. I believe that a comprehensive list should include people who may not quite meet the full definition, but that it would be important to mark such cases in a way that would allow researchers to investigate the legislative behavior of LGB legislators at various stages of “outness.” Perhaps there should be an ordinal scale on which each individual is rated by scholars (e.g., 1 – being gay is an issue in the campaign for office, fully acknowledged by candidate; 2 – news stories note the person is gay infrequently, no evidence that it is a campaign issue, not mentioned by candidate or opponent; 3 – campaign includes clues suggesting the candidate is gay (e.g., contribution from HRC or the Victory Fund), not denied by candidate, but not an issue in the campaign, etc.)

Second, the database should include specific dates of service rather than just years. In studies of the impact of “out” legislators on policy, there will need to be consideration of the dates of the debates and votes on policy issues as well as the dates on which legislators made their sexual orientation known to their colleagues. The nature of each state’s legislative sessions will also be a factor, e.g., in a year when a legislature doesn’t meet (i.e., those with biennial meetings like Texas), there really cannot be a vote on any particular gay or anti-gay policy regardless of the presence of LGB legislators. This may make event histories a little harder to do, but the information can also allow for the possibility of measuring the impact of “timely announcements” that are made as a way of influencing votes of colleagues.

Third, a home for the database needs to be found. The home must meet at least two important criteria: 1) the database must be easily accessible by scholars who want to use it; and 2) there must be individuals managing the database who are committed to keeping it updated and current; this will include a need for a process for individuals to propose additions and deletions to the list that can be considered, accepted, or rejected.

Conclusion

I believe that the database I have created (Appendix A) provides a good place to start, although there are very likely to be changes as more people begin conducting research in this area. Many political scientists are eager to begin doing sophisticated statistical analyses on issues of representation involving

LGBT individuals, but it is critical that the data they are using is as accurate as possible. That will take community involvement in reviewing and amending the list as more accurate information becomes available. Who knows, maybe someday it will be possible to analyze the voting behaviors of “closeted” LGB officials (or at least those who subsequently come out during or after their legislative service). I invite others to join me in trying to make this database a reality.

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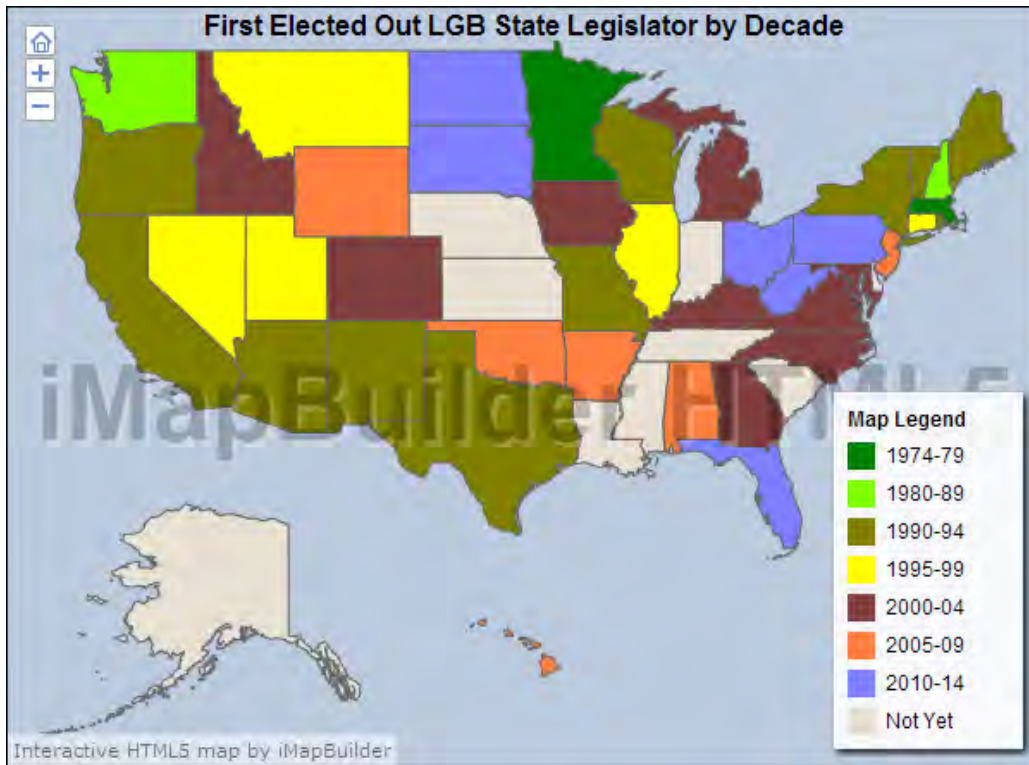
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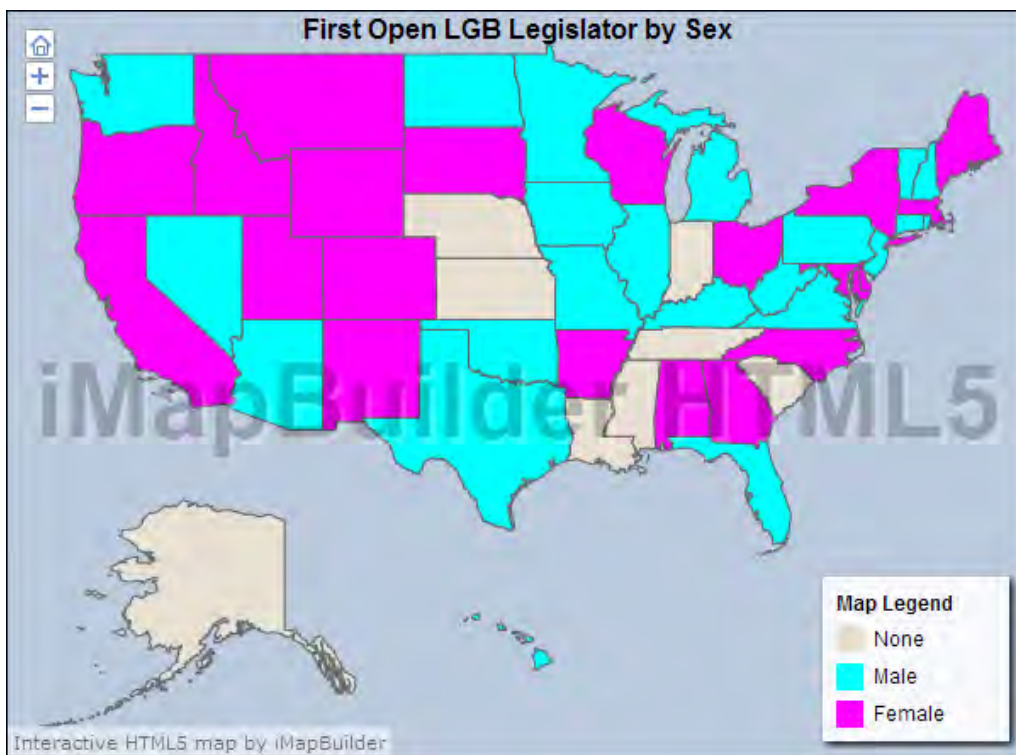
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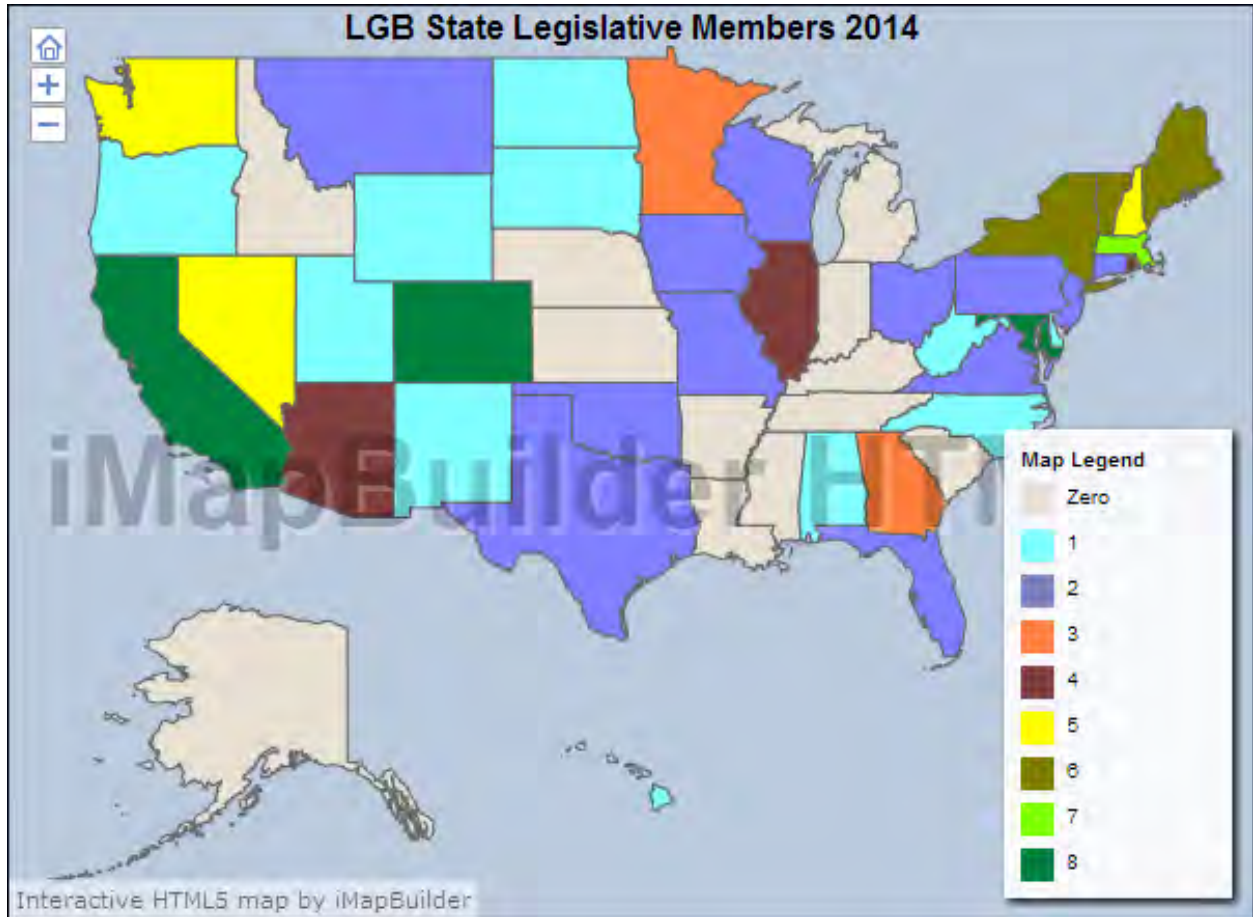
Map 1



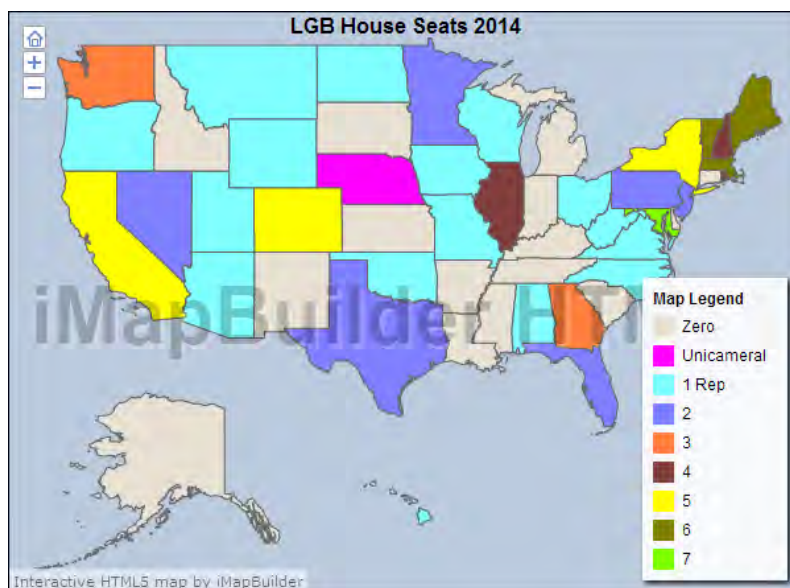
Map 2



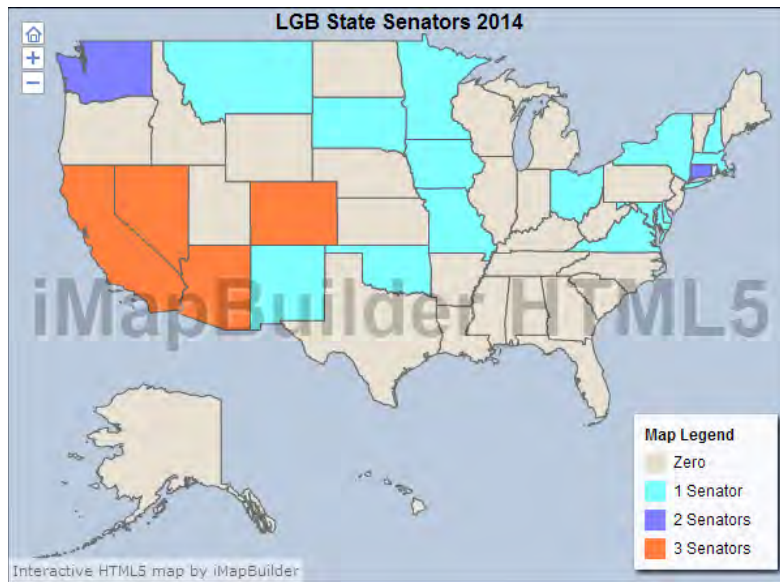
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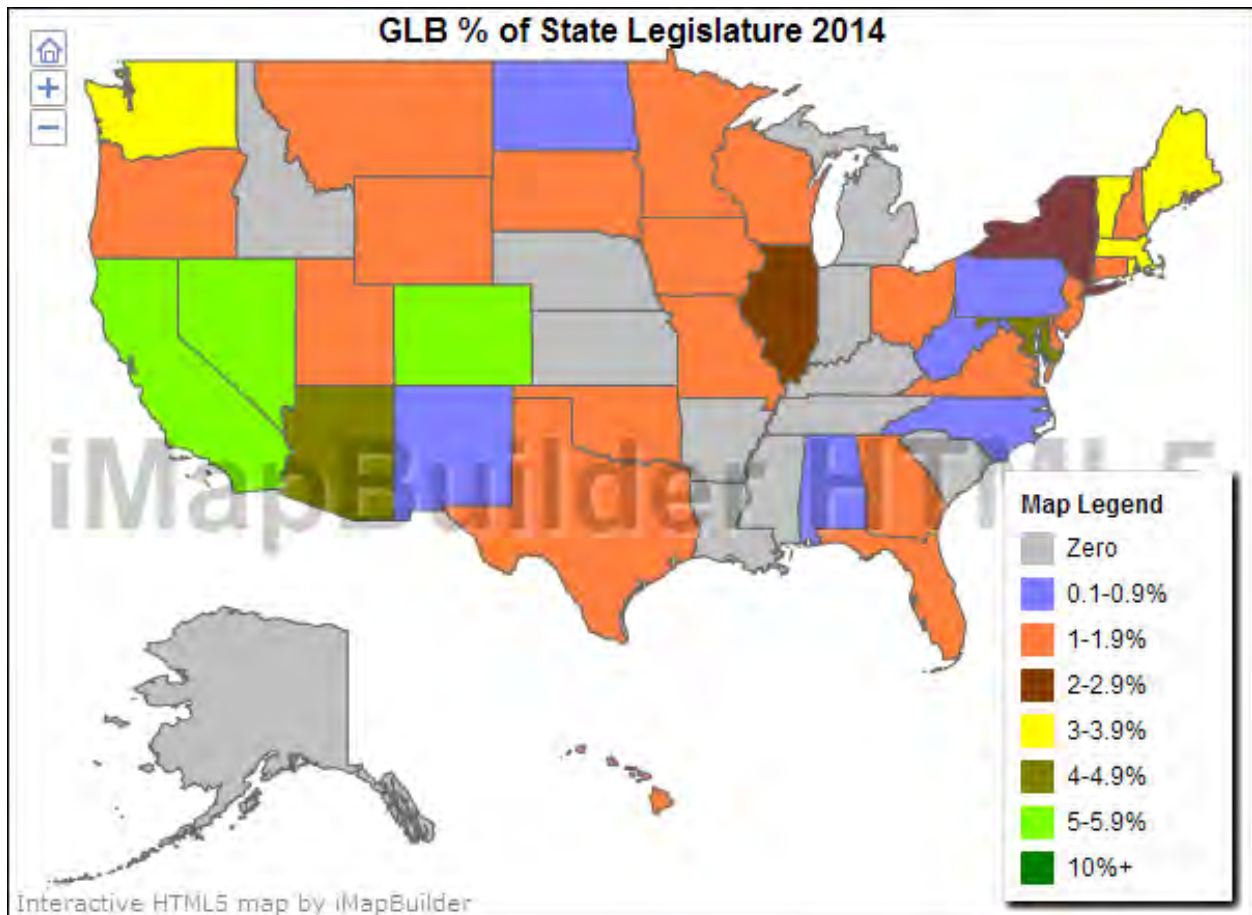
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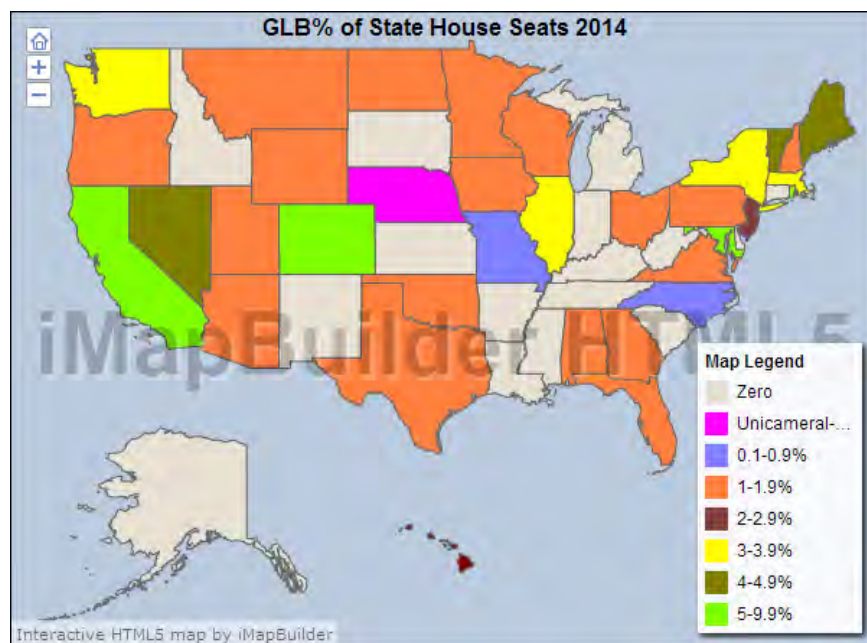
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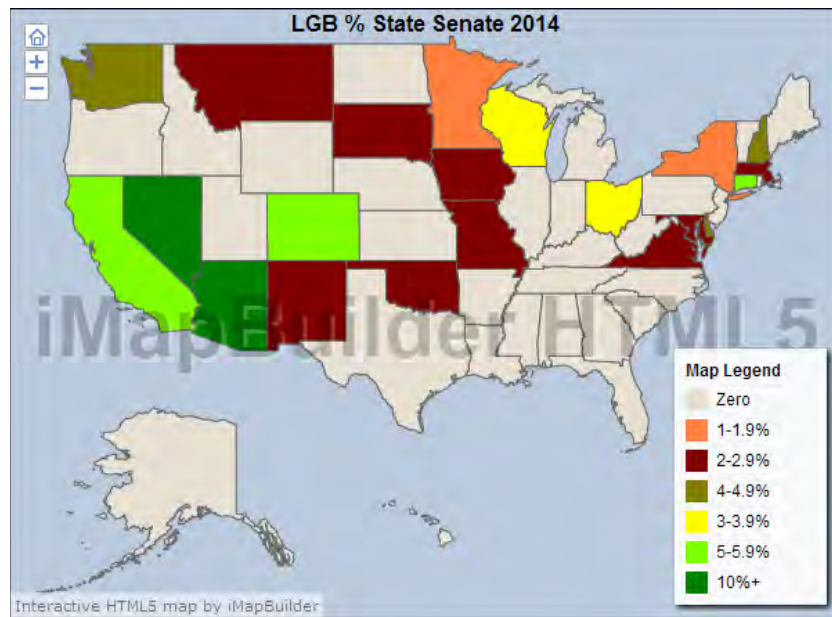
Map 6



Map 7



Map 8



Map 9

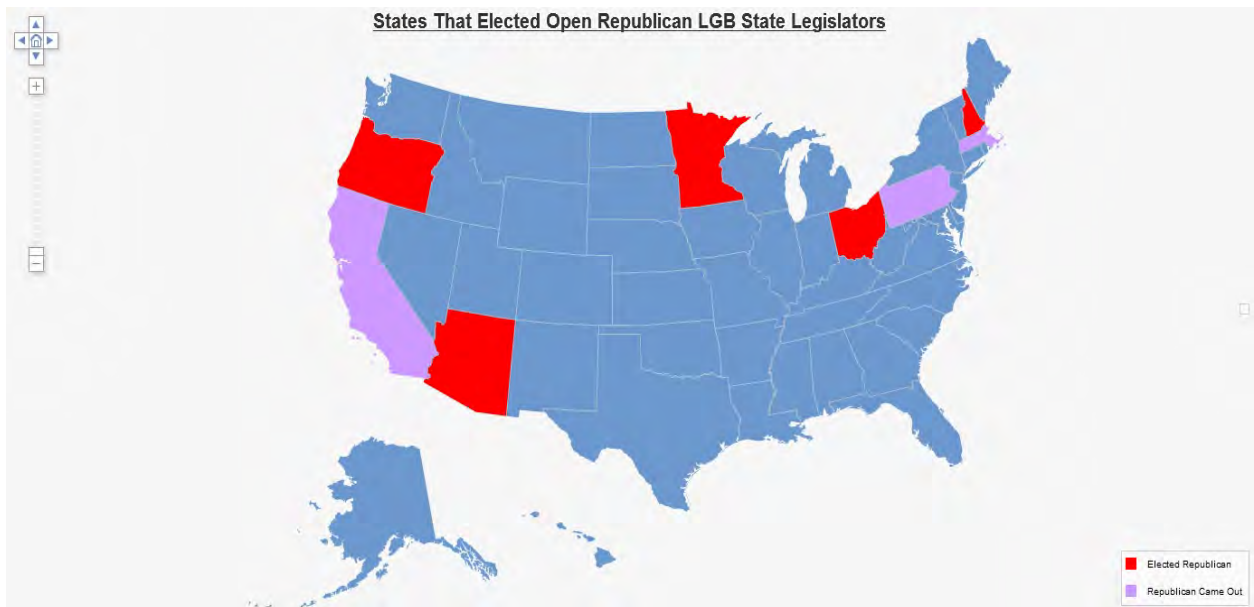


Chart 1

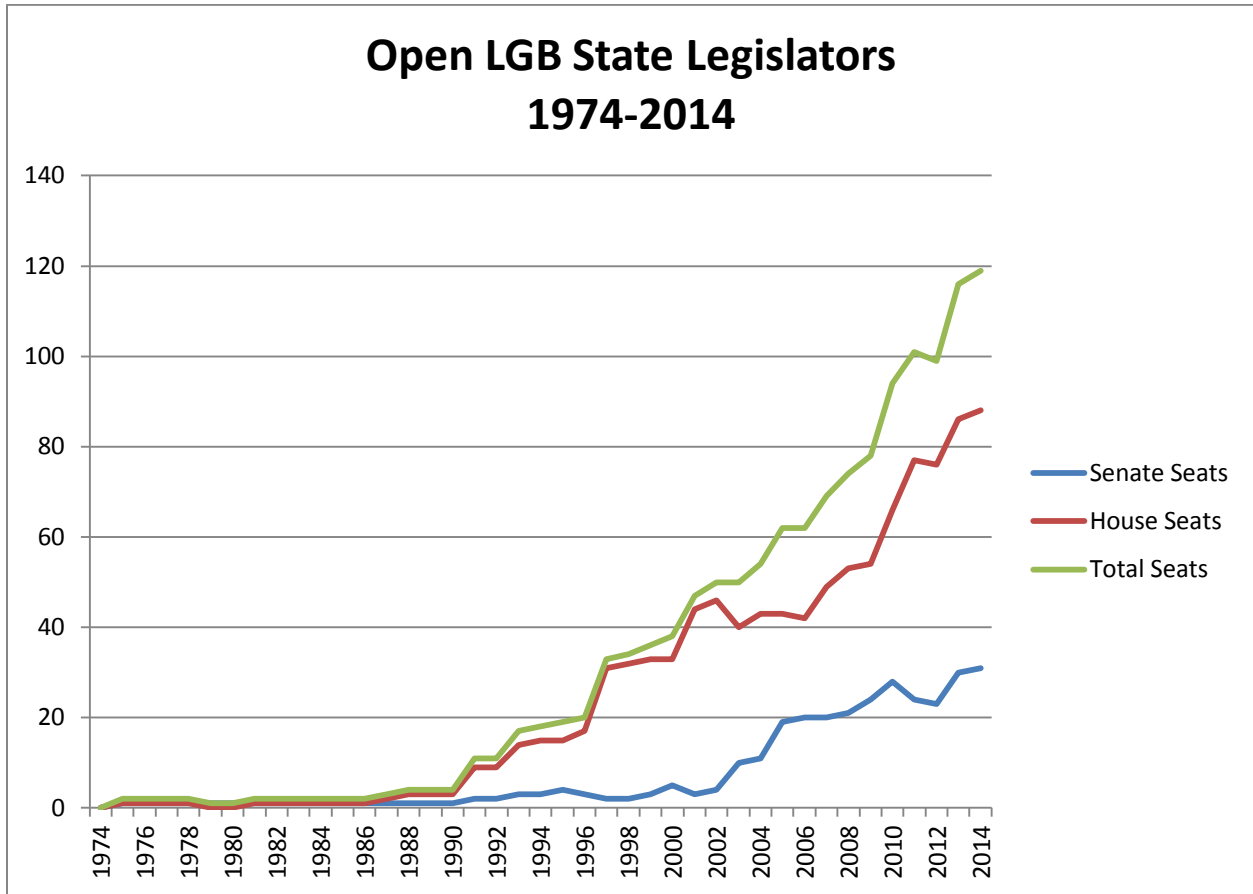
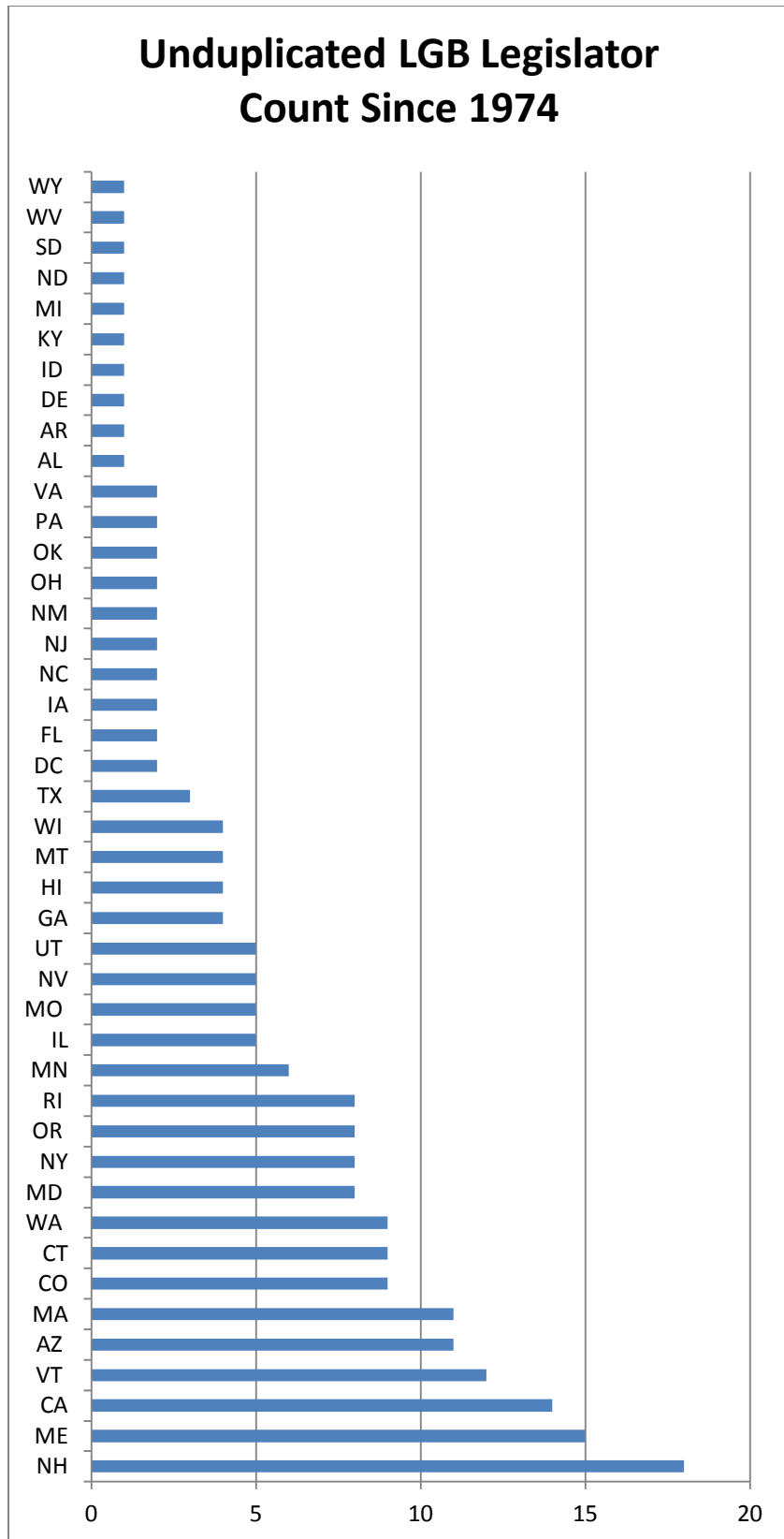


Chart 2



Map 10

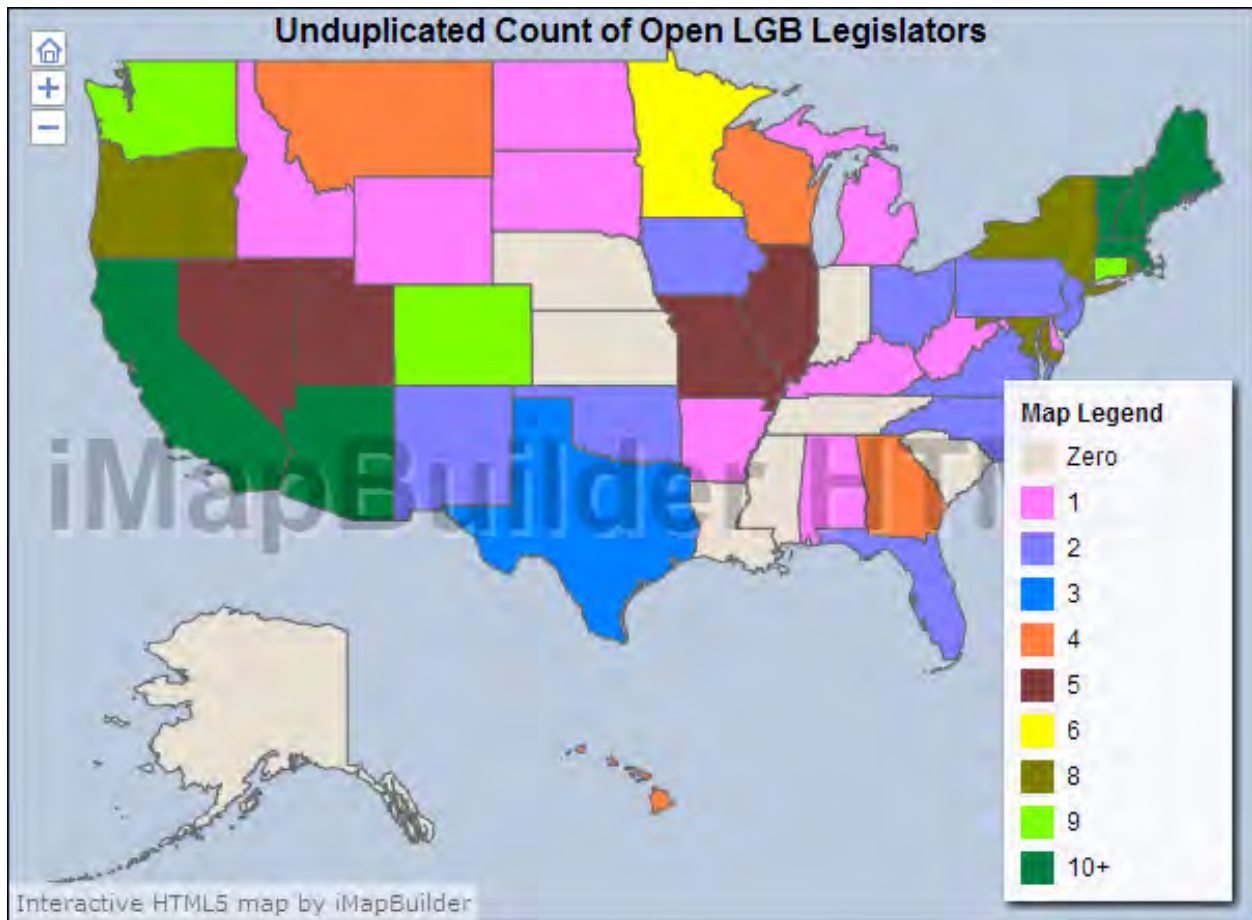


Table 1

**Demographic Data on LGB State Legislators
(Historical and Cumulative)**

Demographic Characteristics	Number	Percentage
Sex		
Male	133	62%
Female	80	38%
Sexual Orientation		
Lesbian	73	34%
Gay	132	62%
Bisexual	8	4%
Race/Ethnicity		
African American	9	4%
Asian Pacific American	3	1.5%
Native American	3	1.5%
Hispanic/Latino	14	7%
White (non Hispanic)	184	86%
Political Party		
Democrat	202	95%
Republican	11	5%
Served Openly In:		
House Only	147	69%
Senate Only	35	16%
Both House and Senate	31	15%

Appendix A

List of Openly Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual State Legislators

STATE	Office Holder	Office	Identity	Race/ Ethnic	Party	Start Year Out#	Last Year in Office *
ALABAMA	Patricia Todd	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2007	current
ALASKA							
ARIZONA	Kenneth Chevront	Rep	Gay	W	D	1995	2002
	Kenneth Chevront	Sen	Gay	W	D	2003	2010
	<i>Steve May</i>	<i>Rep</i>	<i>Gay</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>1999</i>	<i>2002</i>
	<i>Ed Poelstra</i>	<i>Rep</i>	<i>Gay</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>
	Wally Straughn	Rep	Gay	W	D	2003	2004
	Robert Meza	Rep	Gay	W	D	2003	2010
	Robert Meza	Sen	Gay	W	D	2011	current
	Jack Jackson, Jr.	Rep	Gay	NA	D	2003	2005
	Jack Jackson, Jr.	Sen	Gay	NA	D	2011	current
	Kyrsten Sinema	Rep	Bisexual	W	D	2005	2010
	Kyrsten Sinema	Sen	Bisexual	W	D	2011	2011
	Paula Aboud	Sen	Lesbian	W	D	2006	2012
	Matthew Heinz	Rep	Gay	W	D	2009	2012
	Steve Gallardo	Sen	Gay	L	D	2014	current
	Demion Clinco	Rep	Gay	W	D	2014	current
ARKANSAS	Kathy Webb	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2007	2012
CALIFORNIA	Sheila Kuehl	Assem	Lesbian	W	D	1995	2000
	Sheila Kuehl	Sen	Lesbian	W	D	2001	2008
	Carole Migden	Assem	Lesbian	W	D	1997	2002
	Carole Migden	Sen	Lesbian	W	D	2005	2008
	Jackie Goldberg	Assem	Lesbian	W	D	2001	2006
	Christine Kehoe	Assem	Lesbian	W	D	2001	2004
	Christine Kehoe	Sen	Lesbian	W	D	2005	2012
	John Laird	Assem	Gay	W	D	2003	2008
	Mark Leno	Assem	Gay	W	D	2003	2008
	Mark Leno	Sen	Gay	W	D	2009	current
	John Perez	Assem	Gay	L	D	2009	current
	Tom Ammiano	Assem	Gay	W	D	2009	current
	<i>Roy Ashburn</i>	<i>Sen</i>	<i>Gay</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2010</i>

	Toni Atkins	Assem	Lesbian	W	D	2011	current
	Ricardo Lara	Assem	Gay	L	D	2011	2012
	Ricardo Lara	Sen	Gay	L	D	2013	current
	Rich Gordon	Assem	Gay	W	D	2011	current
	Cathleen Galgiani	Assem	Lesbian	W	D	2011	2012
	Cathleen Galgiani	Sen	Lesbian	W	D	2013	current
	Susan Eggman	Assem	Lesbian	W	D	2013	current
COLORADO	Jennifer Veiga	Rep	Lesbian	L	D	2002	2003
	Jennifer Veiga	Sen	Lesbian	L	D	2004	2009
	Mike Ferrandino	Rep	Gay	W	D	2008	current
	Pat Steadman	Sen	Gay	W	D	2010	current
	Sue Schaefer	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2009	current
	Lucia Guzman	Sen	Lesbian	L	D	2010	current
	Dominick Moreno	Rep	Gay	L	D	2013	current
	Paul Rosenthal	Rep	Gay	W	D	2013	current
	Jessie Ulibarri	Sen	Gay	L	D	2013	current
	Joann Ginal	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2013	current
CONNECTICUT	Joseph Grabarz	Rep	Gay	W	D	1991	1992
	Art Feltman	Rep	Gay	W	D	1997	2008
	Evelyn Mantilla	Rep	Bisexual	L	D	1997	2006
	Patrick J. Flaherty	Rep	Gay	W	D	1999	2002
	Mike Lawlor	Rep	Gay	W	D	2007	2010
	Andrew McDonald	Sen	Gay	W	D	2003	2010
	Andrew Maynard	Sen	Gay	W	D	2007	current
	Beth Bye	Sen	Lesbian	W	D	2007	current
	Jason Bartlett	Rep	Gay	B	D	2008	2010
DELAWARE	Karen Peterson	Sen	Lesbian	W	D	2013	current
FLORIDA	David Richardson	Rep	Gay	W	D	2013	current
	Joe Saunders	Rep	Gay	W	D	2013	current
GEORGIA	Karla Drenner	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2001	current
	Simone Bell	Rep	Lesbian	B	D	2010	current
	Rashad Taylor	Rep	Gay	B	D	2010	2012
	Keisha Waites	Rep	Lesbian	B	D	2012	current
HAWAII	Joe Bertram III	Rep	Gay	W	D	2007	2010
	Blake Oshiro	Rep	Gay	AP	D	2010	2011
	Georgette 'Jo' Jordan	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2011	current

	Heather Giugni	Rep	Lesbian	AP	D	2012	2012
IDAHO	Nicole LeFavour	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2005	2008
	Nicole LeFavour	Sen	Lesbian	W	D	2009	2012
ILLINOIS	Larry McKeon	Rep	Gay	W	D	1997	2006
	Greg Harris	Rep	Gay	W	D	2007	current
	Deb Mell	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2009	current
	Kelly Cassidy	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2011	current
	Sam Yingling	Rep	Gay	W	D	2013	current
INDIANA							
IOWA	Matt McCoy	Sen	Gay	W	D	2004	current
	Daniel Lundby	Rep	Gay	W	D	2013	current
KANSAS							
KENTUCKY	Ernesto Scorsone	Sen	Gay	W	D	2003	2008
LOUISIANA							
MAINE	Dale McCormick	Sen	Lesbian	W	D	1991	1996
	Susan Farnsworth	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	1993	1994
	Susan Longley	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	1997	2002
	Scott Cowger	Rep	Gay	W	D	1997	2004
	Scott Cowger	Sen	Gay	W	D	2005	2006
	Judy Powers	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	1997	2000
	Michael Quint	Rep	Gay	W	D	1997	2004
	Larry Bliss	Rep	Gay	W	D	2001	2008
	Larry Bliss	Sen	Gay	W	D	2009	2011
	Phil Bartlett	Sen	Gay	W	D	2005	2012
	Terry Morrison	Rep	Gay	W	D	2009	current
	James R. "Jim" Martin	Rep	Gay	W	D	2009	2010
	Henry Beck	Rep	Gay	W	D	2013	current
	Matt Moonen	Rep	Gay	W	D	2013	current
	Andrew McLean	Rep	Gay	W	D	2013	current
	Justin Chenette	Rep	Gay	W	D	2013	current
	Craig Hickman	Rep	Gay	B	D	2013	current
MARYLAND	Maggie McIntosh	Del	Lesbian	W	D	2001	current
	Richard Madaleno	Del	Gay	W	D	2003	2006
	Richard Madaleno	Sen	Gay	W	D	2007	current

	Anne R. Kaiser	Del	Lesbian	W	D	2004	current
	Heather R. Mizeur	Del	Lesbian	W	D	2007	current
	Mary L. Washington	Del	Lesbian	B	D	2011	current
	Bonnie Cullison	Del	Lesbian	W	D	2011	current
	Luke Clippinger	Del	Gay	W	D	2011	current
	Peter Murphy	Del	Gay	W	D	2011	current
MASSACHUSETTS	Elaine Noble	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	1975	1978
	Elizabeth Malia	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	1998	current
	Jarrett Barrios	Rep	Gay	L	D	1999	2002
	Jarrett Barrios	Sen	Gay	L	D	2003	2007
	Cheryl Jacques	Sen	Lesbian	W	D	2000	2003
	Cheryl Coakley-Rivera	Rep	Lesbian	L	D	2004	current
	Carl Sciortino	Rep	Gay	W	D	2005	current
	Sarah Peake	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2007	current
	Kate Hogan	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2009	current
	Stan Rosenberg	Sen	Gay	W	D	2009	current
	<i>Richard Tisei</i>	<i>Sen</i>	<i>Gay</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>
	Denise Andrews	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2011	current
MICHIGAN	Chris Kolb	Rep	Gay	W	D	2001	2006
MINNESOTA	Allan Spear	Sen	Gay	W	D	1975	2000
	Karen Clark	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	1981	current
	Scott Dibble	Rep	Gay	W	D	2001	2002
	Scott Dibble	Sen	Gay	W	D	2003	current
	<i>Paul Koering</i>	<i>Sen</i>	<i>Gay</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2010</i>
	Susan Allen	Rep	Lesbian	NA	D	2012	current
	Kelly Gauthier	Rep	Gay	W	D	2012	2012
MISSISSIPPI							
MISSOURI	Tim VanZandt	Rep	Gay	W	D	1995	2002
	Jeanette M. Oxford	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2005	2012
	Jolie Justus	Sen	Lesbian	W	D	2007	current
	Mike Colona	Rep	Gay	W	D	2009	current
	<i>Zachary Wyatt</i>	<i>Rep</i>	<i>Gay</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>2012</i>
MONTANA	Sands, Diane (a)	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	1997	1998
	Sands, Diane (b)	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2007	2012
	MaryAnne Guggenheim	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	1999	2000
	Kaufman, Christine	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2001	2006

	Kaufman, Christine	Sen	Lesbian	W	D	2007	current
	Bennett, Bryce	Rep	Gay	W	D	2011	current
NEBRASKA*							
NEVADA	David Parks	Rep	Gay	W	D	1997	2008
	David Parks	Sen	Gay	W	D	2009	current
	Patricia Spearman	Sen	Lesbian	W	D	2013	current
	Andrew Martin	Rep	Gay	W	D	2013	current
	James Healey	Rep	Gay	W	D	2013	current
	Kelvin Atkinson	Sen	Gay	B	D	2013	current
NEW HAMPSHIRE	Raymond Buckley	Rep	Gay	W	D	1987	2004
	Marlene DeChane	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	1995	2004
	Dana Hilliard (a)	Rep	Gay	W	D	1993	1998
	Dana Hilliard (b)	Rep	Gay	W	D	2005	2008
	Carol Burney	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	1997	1998
	Jim Splaine	Rep	Gay	W	D	1997	2010
	McKim Mitchell	Rep	Gay	W	D	1999	2004
	Rick Trombly	Sen	Gay	W	D	2000	2000
	<i>Corey Corbin</i>	<i>Rep</i>	<i>Gay</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>R/D</i>	<i>2001</i>	2004
	Nick Panagopoulos	Rep	Gay	W	D	2001	2002
	Gail Morrison (b)	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2005	2008
	Chris Pappas	Rep	Gay	W	D	2003	2006
	Maureen "Mo" Baxley	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2007	2008
	<i>Steve Vaillancourt (b)</i>	<i>Rep</i>	<i>Gay</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>current</i>
	David Pierce	Rep	Gay	W	D	2007	2012
	David Pierce	Sen	Gay	W	D	2013	current
	Ed Butler (a)	Rep	Gay	W	D	2007	2010
	Ed Butler (b)	Rep	Gay	W	D	2013	current
	Robert Thompson	Rep	Gay	W	D	2009	2010
	Robert Theberge	Rep	Gay	W	D	2003	current
	Carol Williams (b)	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2009	2010
	Carol Williams (c)	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2013	current
NEW JERSEY	Reed Gusciora	Assem	Gay	W	D	2007	current
	Tim Eustace	Assem	Gay	W	D	2012	current
NEW MEXICO	Liz Stefanics	Sen	Lesbian	W	D	1993	1996
	Jacob Candelaria	Sen	Gay	W	D	2013	current
NEW YORK	Deborah Glick	Assem	Lesbian	W	D	1991	current
	Tom Duane	Sen	Gay	W	D	1999	2012

	Daniel J. O'Donnell	Assem	Gay	W	D	2003	current
	Matthew Titone	Assem	Gay	W	D	2007	current
	Micah Kellner	Assem	Bisexual	W	D	2007	current
	Carl Kruger	Sen	Gay	W	D	2011	2011
	Harry Bronson	Assem	Gay	W	D	2011	current
	Brad Hoylman	Sen	Gay	W	D	2013	current
NORTH CAROLINA	Julia Boseman	Sen	Lesbian	W	D	2005	2010
	Marcus Brandon	Rep	Gay	B	D	2011	current
NORTH DAKOTA	Joshua Boschee	Rep	Gay	W	D	2013	current
OHIO	Nickie Antonio	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2011	current
	<i>Tim Brown</i>	<i>Rep</i>	<i>Gay</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>current</i>
OKLAHOMA	Al McAffrey	House	Gay	NA	D	2007	2012
	Al McAffrey	Sen	Gay	NA	D	2013	current
	Kay Floyd	House	Lesbian	W	D	2013	current
OREGON	Gail Shibley	House	Lesbian	W	D	1991	1996
	Kate Brown	House	Bisexual	W	D	1991	1996
	Kate Brown	Sen	Bisexual	W	D	1997	2008
	Cynthia Wooten	House	Lesbian	W	D	1993	1998
	George Eighmey	House	Gay	W	D	1993	1998
	Hedy Rijken	House	Lesbian	AP	D	1993	1994
	<i>Chuck Carpenter</i>	<i>House</i>	<i>Gay</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>1998</i>
	Elli Work	House	Lesbian	W	D	1997	1998
	Tina Kotek	House	Lesbian	W	D	2007	current
PENNSYLVANIA	<i>Mike Fleck</i>	<i>House</i>	<i>Gay</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>current</i>
	Brian Sims	House	Gay	W	D	2013	current
RHODE ISLAND	William P. Fitzpatrick	Sen	Gay	W	D	1993	1996
	Mike Pisaturo	Rep	Gay	W	D	1997	2002
	David Cicilline	Rep	Gay	W	D	1999	2002
	Nancy Hetherington	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2001	2002
	Gordon D. Fox	Rep	Gay	B	D	2004	current
	Frank Ferri	Rep	Gay	W	D	2008	current
	Deb Ruggiero	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2009	current
	Donna Nesselbush	Sen	Lesbian	W	D	2011	current
SOUTH CAROLINA							

SOUTH DAKOTA	Angie Buhl	Sen	Bisexual	W	D	2012	current
TENNESSEE							
TEXAS	Glenn Maxey	Rep	Gay	W	D	1991	2003
	Mary Edna Gonzalez	Rep	Bisexual	L	D	2013	current
	Celia Israel	Rep	Lesbian	L	D	2014	current
UTAH	Jackie Biskupski	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	1999	2011
	Scott D. McCoy	Sen	Gay	W	D	2005	2009
	Christine Johnson	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2007	2010
	Brian Doughty	Rep	Gay	W	D	2012	2012
	Jim Dabakis	Sen	Gay	W	D	2013	current
VERMONT	Ron Squires	Rep	Gay	W	D	1991	1992
	Thomas L. Fleury	Rep	Gay	W	D	1993	1994
	Bill Lippert	Rep	Gay	W	D	1994	current
	Steven Howard (a)	Rep	Gay	W	D	1997	1998
	Steven Howard (b)	Rep	Gay	W	D	2004	2010
	Robert Dostis	Rep	Gay	W	D	2001	2008
	Jason Lorber	Rep	Gay	W	D	2005	2012
	Ed Flanagan	Sen	Gay	W	D	2005	2010
	Suzi Wizowaty	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2009	current
	Brian Campion	Rep	Gay	W	D	2011	current
	Herb Font Russell	Rep	Gay	W	D	2011	current
	Matt Trieber	Rep	Gay	W	D	2011	current
	Joanna Cole	Rep	Bisexual	W	D	2013	current
VIRGINIA	Adam Ebbin	Del	Gay	W	D	2004	2011
	Adam Ebbin	Sen	Gay	W	D	2012	current
	Mark D. Sickles	Del	Gay	W	D	2014	current
WASHINGTON	Cal Anderson	Rep	Gay	W	D	1988	1994
	Cal Anderson	Sen	Gay	W	D	1995	1995
	Ed Murray	Rep	Gay	W	D	1995	2006
	Ed Murray	Sen	Gay	W	D	2007	2013
	Joe McDermott	Rep	Gay	W	D	2001	2007
	Joe McDermott	Sen	Gay	W	D	2008	2010
	Dave Upthegrove	Rep	Gay	W	D	2002	2013
	Jim Moeller	Rep	Gay	W	D	2003	current
	Jamie Pedersen	Rep	Gay	W	D	2007	2012
	Jamie Pedersen	Sen	Gay	W	D	2013	current

	Marko Lias	Rep	Gay	W	D	2008	2013
	Marko Lias	Sen	Gay	W	D	2014	current
	Laurie Jenkins	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2011	current
	Brady Walkinshaw	Rep	Gay	L	D	2013	current
WEST VIRGINIA	Stephen Skinner	Rep	Gay	W	D	2013	current
WISCONSIN	Tammy Baldwin	Assem	Lesbian	W	D	1993	1998
	Mark Pocan	Assem	Gay	W	D	1999	2012
	Tim Carpenter	Assem	Gay	W	D	2001	2002
	Tim Carpenter	Sen	Gay	W	D	2003	current
	JoCasta Zamarippa	Assem	Bisexual	L	D	2012	current
WYOMING	Cathy Connolly	Rep	Lesbian	W	D	2009	current

terms usually begin in early January of the year following election; for those not openly LGBT when elected, year used is when they came out unless it was in the last two months of the year in which case the next year was listed as the first year as an open LGB legislator

* technically terms often ended in early January of an odd number year, but the dates here are usually the last full year